

REMARKS

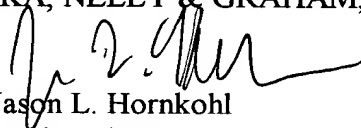
Prior to the calculation of the filing fee, please enter the following preliminary amendment. Claims 3 and 4 have been amended. Claims 6-16 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. New claims 17 and 18 have been added. This preliminary amendment is being made to bring the claims into compliance with U.S. claim drafting practice. No new matter is submitted. Action on the merits of the claims as amended is respectfully requested.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made."

Respectfully submitted,

LUEDEKA, NEELY & GRAHAM, P.C.

By:


Jason L. Hornkohl

Registration No. 44,777

Date: August 3, 2001
P. O. Box 1871
Knoxville, Tennessee 37901
(865) 546-4305

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Paragraph added on Page 1, before line 1, as follows:

-This application is a national phase application of copending PCT application Serial No. PCT/GB00/00337, filed February 4, 2000, and having a priority date of February 5, 1999.--

IN THE CLAIMS:

3. (Amended) The method of claim 1 [or claim 2], in which the mandrel and sleeve are located immediately adjacent to the power line support structure.

4. (Amended) The method of claim 3, further comprising the step of:
supporting the dielectric cable from the power line support structure with a suspension member, a first end thereof being affixed to the power line support structure, and a second thereof being affixed round the surface of the dielectric cable.

Claims 6-16 cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

17. (New) The method of claim 1, in which the step of locating the mandrel and sleeve in fixed relation to the power line support structure comprises mounting the sleeved mandrel upon a pulley block, and affixing the pulley block to the power line support structure.

18. (New) The method of claim 6, further comprising, prior to urging the dielectric cable through the aperture in the mandrel, the steps of:

passing a pulling rope through the aperture in the mandrel once it has been mounted in fixed relation to the power line support structure,

attaching the pulling rope to the dielectric cable which is to be installed; and

drawing the pulling rope through the aperture in the mandrel which in turn causes the dielectric cable attached to the said pulling rope to be urged through the aperture in the mandrel.